

# May 2009


## Potato Creek State Park

25601 STATE ROAD 4 NORTH LIBERTY, IN 46554  
(574) 656-8186 NATURALIST: Tim Cordell, Marie Hamstra

**PLEASE NOTE:** Programs are free of charge (except as noted) and open to the public after paying the park admission fee.

### “WELCOME BACK WEEKEND”

#### SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. **IN-SHAPE HIKE** – Come take a 2 mile hike with us as we participate in the Governor’s In-Shape Indiana program. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 10:00 a.m. **IN-SHAPE MOUNTAIN BIKE GROUP RIDE** – Come ride the 6.6 mile mountain bike trail to participate in the Governor’s In-Shape Indiana program. Helmets required. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
-  1:00 p.m. **\$\$ FLOWER POUNDING** – Make a beautiful art print from a few flowers in this craft program. \$3 per person material fee. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 2:00 p.m. **DIGITAL CAMERA SCAVENGER HUNT** - If you have your digital camera or cell phone camera handy, then this is the perfect game for you. We’ll provide a list of photo subjects and the first one to return to the nature center with all the photos wins a prize! **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 3:30 p.m. **INTRO TO GEOCAHING** – Bring your GPS unit or come without as we introduce you to the very popular past time of geocaching! 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

#### SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. **FEEDING TIME** - Come to the nature center to watch the animals being fed. 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 2:00 p.m. **FEATHERS & FLOWERS HIKE** – Enjoy a spring walk in the woods to look for a few of our springtime birds and wildflowers. 1 hour. **MEET: QUAKING ASPEN EAST P. LOT**

#### SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. **FLOWER ID BASICS** - Come learn the basics of wildflower ID so you'll be ready to identify them on the trail. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**
- 2:00 p.m. **MAPS – KEYS TO YOUR WORLD** – Review the basics of map reading and take a look at several different types of maps of the park and state. 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

#### SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. **FEEDING TIME** - Come to the nature center to watch the animals being fed. 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 2:00 p.m. **BUSY BEES** - Discover just how busy are bees and much more as we learn about these fascinating creatures. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**



## SATURDAY MAY 16, 2009



- 10:00 a.m. FISH PRINTS** - Try your hand at the art of fish printing. Bring a washed T-shirt to decorate or use our paper. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**
- 2:00 p.m. BLOODSUCKERS** - Facts about ticks, mosquitoes and more. Bite into this program before they bite you! 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

## SUNDAY MAY 17, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. FEEDING TIME** - Come to the nature center to watch the animals being fed. 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 2:00 p.m. REPTILE REVIEW** - Learn a little about our native reptiles and then meet one up close and personal. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**



## TUESDAY, MAY 19 2009

- 7:00 p.m. FRIENDS MEETING —HOOSIER RIVERWATCH-**. Nancy Brown, Program Manager for the Elkhart County Soil and Water Conservation District, is a volunteer instructor for the Hoosier Riverwatch program. She will be on hand to demonstrate the impact a watershed has on a body of water, and to show some of the techniques volunteers learn at Hoosier Riverwatch trainings to become certified volunteer water monitors. Bring a snack to share and get involved! **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**



## SATURDAY MAY 23, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. AWESOME AMPHIBIANS!** – There is more to amphibians than slimy skin. Come see some native species to the park and learn more about them. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**
- 12:30 p.m. HOOSIER QUEST PROGRAM** – Come find out details on how you can earn incentives while visiting the Indiana State Parks. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 2:00 p.m. TREKKING WITH TREES** – Come along for a nice trek through the oldest trees in the park and learn something different about nature's giants. 1 hour. **MEET: QUAKING ASPEN EAST P. LOT**
- 3:30 p.m. REPTILE REVIEW** - Learn a little about our native reptiles and then meet one up close and personal. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**
- 8:00 p.m. OWLS** – Come to a short show-n-tell session about owls and then try to call one in during this evening program. 45 minutes. **MEET: QUAKING ASPEN PICNIC AREA**




## SUNDAY MAY 24, 2009

- 10:00 a.m. FEEDING TIME** - Come to the nature center to watch the animals being fed. 30 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 12:30 p.m. HOOSIER QUEST PROGRAM** – Come find out details on how you can earn incentives while visiting the Indiana State Parks. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**
- 2:00 p.m. CEMETERY TOUR** – Learn of the symbolism and burial traditions of the past as well as the history of this cemetery. 1 hour. **MEET: PORTER REA CEMETERY**
- 8:00 p.m. BATS!!** Join us for a short twilight walk to learn about and see a colony of bats. Flashlights helpful. 45 minutes. **MEET: WHISPERING WINDS P. LOT**



## MONDAY MAY 25, 2009

**10:00 a.m.**  **FILL THE BILL** - What do chopsticks, tweezers, straws, and nutcrackers have in common? Come find out as we learn how bird beaks are adapted for specific types of food. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

**12:30 p.m.** **HOOSIER QUEST PROGRAM** – Come find out details on how you can earn incentives while visiting the Indiana State Parks. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**

**2:00 p.m.** **TURKEY TALK** - Wild turkey vocabulary is much more than a simple “gobble”. Come learn more about the turkeys and their wide variety of sounds. 45 minutes.

**MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

#### **SATURDAY MAY 30, 2009**



**10:00 a.m.** **SPIDERS!!** – Could you weave a web? Find out how they do it and more in this fun look at our 8 legged friends. 45 minutes. **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

**12:30 p.m.** **HOOSIER QUEST PROGRAM** – Come find out details on how you can earn incentives while visiting the Indiana State Parks. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**

**2:00 p.m.** **OSPREY OBSERVATION** - Come along on this short walk to observe the endangered "fish hawk". Bring binoculars if you have them. We'll bring along our spotting scope. 40 minutes.



**MEET: WEST PARKING LOT**

#### **SUNDAY MAY 31, 2009**

**10:00 a.m.** **FEEDING TIME** - Come to the nature center to watch the animals being fed. 30 minutes.

**MEET: NATURE CENTER**

**12:30 p.m.** **HOOSIER QUEST PROGRAM** – Come find out details on how you can earn incentives while visiting the Indiana State Parks. **MEET: NATURE CENTER**

**2:00 p.m.** **FARMLAND TO PARKLAND** – Hear of the history of the area and the development of the park in this slide show. 45 min's **MEET: NATURE CENTER AUDITORIUM**

#### **May Nature Center Hours (Eastern Time)**

**Weekends: 9:00 AM – 5:00 p.m. Weekdays: Noon - 4 p.m.**

**CLOSED: May 11-13**